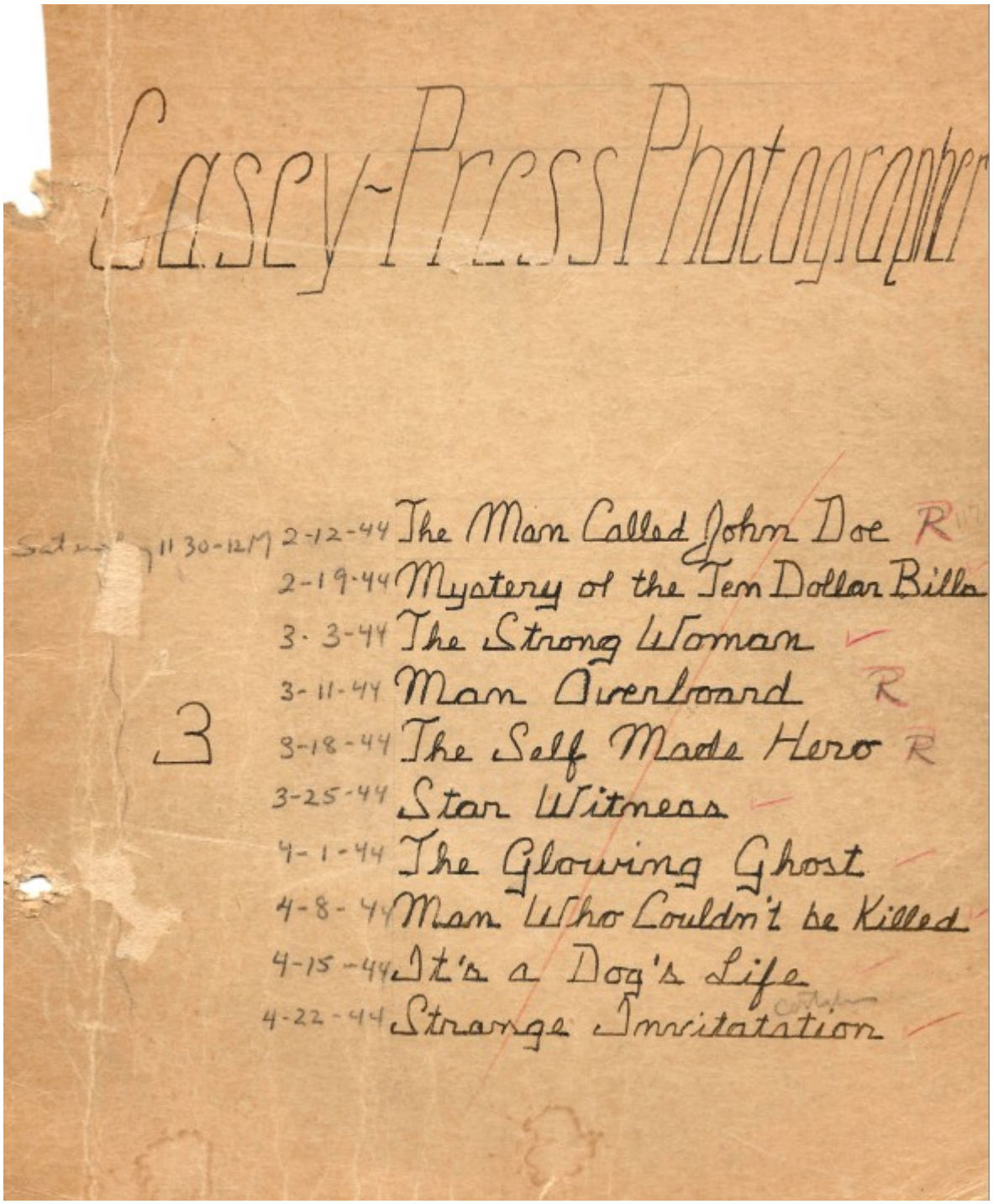
Background information for 10
Casey, Press Photographer
Scripts from Early 1944


Casey-Press Photographer
Sat 11:30-12M
2-12-44 The Man Called John Doe R
2-19-44 Mystery of the Ten Dollar Bills
3-3-44 The Strong Woman
3-11-44 Man Overboard R
3
3-18-44 The Self Made Hero R
3-25-44 Star Witness
4-1-44 The Glowing Ghost
4-8-44 Man Who Couldn't be Killed
4-15-44 It's a Dog's Life
4-22-44 Strange Invitation

Notes ©2026 Joseph W. Webb, Ph.D., prepared on July 24, 2026
many thanks to researcher Karl Schadow for his assistance

Ten *Casey, Press Photographer* scripts have been scanned. Most all were reused later in the series. The scans are of Alonzo Deen Cole's carbon copies. He sent the originals to CBS (likely CBS staff producer John Dietz) for review and prep for broadcast. Changes would be made before and at rehearsal, sometimes without Cole's input. I'm not quite clear on whether or not Cole would sit in on rehearsals. Cole lived in Mount Vernon at the time, and there were commuter trains into Grand Central Station that he could use, or find his way to a Bronx-originating subway line. It was a convenient place to live, and still is, if one works in Manhattan.

Cole became the editor and main scripter of the series about the seventh or eighth week of the series. He was hired to improve scripts and bring some consistency to the series.

The 82 year old scripts were scanned in July 2026. They were so brittle that they had to be placed, page by page, in document carrier sheets. Had they been put directly into a document feeder, most would have jammed and not survived the process. They were scanned as b&w PDFs.

- **1944-02-12 The Man Called 'John Doe** (this was only the second week the series was named "Casey, Press Photographer"; prior to this time it was "Flashgun Casey, Press Photographer"; was later done as 1946-07-08 The Man Called John Doe)
- **1944-02-19 Mystery of the Ten Dollar Bills**
- **1944-03-03 Casey and the Strong Woman** (was later done as 1948-01-08 Queen of the Amazons [in circulation])
- **1944-03-11 Man Overboard!** (was later done as 1945-06-26 Man Overboard and 1950-07-13 Murder at the Yacht Club)
- **1944-03-18 Self-Made Hero** (was later done as 1944-07-08 Casey and the Self-Made Hero and as 1947-07-17 Self-Made Hero [in circulation])
- **1944-03-25 Star Witness** (later done as 1946-08-15 Unlucky Day)
- **1944-04-01 The Glowing Ghost** (later done as 1947-06-05 The Haunted House, was in issue #3 of the Casey comic, also in the pCloud folder)
- **1944-04-08 The Man Who Couldn't be Killed** (later done as 1955-01-28 The Watchdog)
- **1944-04-15 It's a Dog's Life** (later done as 1947-10-16 The Camera Bug [in circulation])
- **1944-04-22 Strange Invitation** (later done as 1948-12-09 The Genius)

These are episodes 31 through 41, with one skipped week. That is 1944-02-26 *The Clue in the Clouds*, which is in circulation (it's not a good episode). That is not in this batch of scripts because that script was written by Charles Holden and not by Cole.

None of these are in circulation for these particular dates. Most were re-used, and three of them are in circulation from the Anchor-Hocking Glass run.

The broadcasts of these scripts were on Saturday nights at 11:30pm ET. The show would move to 5:00pm Saturdays on 1944-07-15. The listening audience at the new time was quite different in composition and larger, and explains why some scripts could be re-used after only a short time passed since the initial broadcast.

The casts for these scripts star Staats Cotsworth as Casey and John Gibson as Ethelbert the bartender. Jone Allison's last portrayal as Ann Williams was for 1944-03-03 *Casey and the Strong Woman*. It is believed that the role was picked up by Alice Reinheart in the next episode. It is believed that Jackson Beck portrayed Lieutenant Logan during this span of broadcasts, though his character was not included in every story at this time. The character was promoted to Captain Logan about a year later. The series was retitled "Crime Photographer" with its hundredth episode on 1945-07-11, but still often referred to as "Casey, Crime Photographer" throughout the rest of its broadcast life.

There are color scans in the batch of scripts

- One image is of the file folder "cover" which was pretty beaten up. The writing is either Cole's or his wife Marie, I suspect. It is fun to see that no matter whose handwriting it is. The file folder held 10 scripts. The left side of the folder and pages had two holes for the prong fasteners that held everything in place.
- There are handwritten notes that were part of the "Self-Made Hero" script. The two sheets were in bad shape. Not much sense of the handwriting, but they were about edits of some sort.
- "Strange Invitation" has a cast list, the only script that does. That page was scanned in color to better capture the pencil notes. The names were looked up in *RadioGoldindex* and had no hits.

1944-07-08 Asheville NC Times

MAKES EARLIER DEADLINE—Casey, Press Photographer, played by Staats Cotsworth, will be heard over WWNC-CBS at 5 o'clock every Saturday afternoon. In the picture, Police Lt. Logan, played by Jackson Beck at left, Casey, center, and Alice Reinheart as Ann Williams, girl reporter, rehearse for tonight's show.

PUBLICITY IMAGES SUPPLIED BY CBS TO NEWSPAPERS

1945-06-19 Rapid City SD Journal

Gathered around the "body" are helper-reporter Ann Williams, played by Alice Reinheart, Jackson Beck as Inspector Logan, and Staats Cotsworth who plays the title role on CBS' "Casey, Press Photographer" Tuesdays at 9:30 p. m. on KOTA.

1944-09-26 Press of Atlantic City NJ

'CASEY PRESS PHOTOGRAPHER'

Rehearsal of "Casey Press Photographer" program heard over WBAB tonight at 11:30. Left to right: Director John Dietz, Jackson Beck, Staats Cotsworth as "Casey," John Gibson, Soundman Vic Rubei and femme lead Alice Reinheart.

These entries are from Alonzo Deen Cole's "synopses" document that he maintained starting with the March 1944 broadcasts.

3/4/44 "CASEY & THE STRONG WOMAN"
Cole

Fiance of ex-circus strong woman turns out to be Nazi spy who steals plans of war material from nearby plant and gives them to his girlfriend in sealed envelopes which he claims contain war bonds.

3/11/44 "MAN OVERBOARD"
Cole
Repeated 7/10/44

A phoney Southern girl who is engaged to one man and has persuaded his business partner to embezzle money from the firm for her witnesses from a small boat th two men engaged in a gun fight on a yacht and she is later trapped into confessing that she shot the man who fell overboard so that she could frame the other partner for murder.

3/18/44 "CASEY AND THE SELF-MADE HERO"
Cole
Repeated 7/8/44
Repeated 7/17/47

A teen-aged kid stages a holdup so that he can be a hero to his girl, but the hoax is discovered. He tries to commit suicide by jumping off a cliff, but he picks a spot where a gang is killing one of its members. He becomes a real hero by outwitting the thugs and saving the lives of Ann Williams and Casey who have followed him to prevent the suicide.

3/25/44 "STAR WITNESS"
Cole
Repeated 8/11/46

Casey is star witness for the State in murder trial and after several attempts to discredit his testimon by framing him as a pickpocket have failed, the killer attempts to force Casey to commit suicide by drinking poisoned whiskey. Casey spills out drink and feigns death until he can catch killer off-guard.

4/1/44 "CASE OF THE GLOWING GHOST"
Cole
Repeated on 6/5/47

Casey and Ann investigate haunted house and find the ghost to be a dressmaker's dummy covered with a poisonous fungus which glows in the dark.

4/8/44 "THE MAN WHO COULDN'T BE KILLED"

A man who is afraid of being murdered because of threatening notes holes himself up in a practically impregnable suite of rooms. He is murdered, however by an employee using an Australian bull whip. The motive is revenge for swindling the murderer's father many years ago.

4/15/44 "IT'S A DOG'S LIFE"
Cole

A kid trying to break into newspaper photography as a career is advised by Casey to carry his camera everywhere and try for a lucky shot which he can sel to the papers. He does get a picture of a killing and is kidnapped by the killer. Casey tracks him down and effects the usual rescue.

4/22/44 "STRANGE INVITATION"
Cole

The author of a hit play is killed at a party in his home at which only his immediate family (all of whom hate him), his secretary, Ann, and Casey are present. His secretary, who had been practising Greek games, threw poison into his drinking water through an open barred window.